

Remarks

Claims 16-29 are pending and are rejected.

The claims are listed for the convenience of the Examiner's review.
No claim has been amended.

Applicants respectfully submit that the reference, "Study of Sound Source Shape and Wideness in Virtual and Real Auditory Displays," by G. Potard and J. Spille, presented at the 114th Convention of the Audio Engineering Society in Amsterdam on March 22-25, 2003 (hereinafter "Potard") cannot qualify as a valid prior reference because, according to the filing receipt dated September 9, 2005, the application is entitled to the right of priority of three EP applications: EP Appl. No. 02022866.4, EP Appl. No. 02026770.4, and EP Appl. No. 03004732.8.4 having filing dates of October 14, 2002, December 2, 2002, and March 4, 2003, respectively, and the publication date of March 22, 2003 of Potard is later than any of the three priority dates.

Since Potard cannot qualify as prior art to this application, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 16-29 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (a).

No fee is believed to have been incurred by virtue of this amendment. However if a fee is incurred on the basis of this amendment, please charge such fee against deposit account 07-0832

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